

BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR



1945






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Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne

1945

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Alderman Sheard, J.P.

Deputy-Chairman: Councillor Hague.

The Mayor, Aldermen Arnold, Hilton and Massey, J.P.,
Councillors Burgess, M. Green, J. J. Green, J.P., Hannan,
Ibbotson, MacCormack and Mamourian, J.P.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor Farley.

Deputy-Chairman: Councillor Mrs. Mamourian, J.P.

The Mayor, Alderman Arnold, Councillors M. Green, Hall,
Hallsworth, Hannan, MacCormack, Oldham and Townsley.

TOWN HALL CHAMBERS,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

**TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**

MR. MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit an abbreviated report on the health of the Borough for the year 1945.

The birth-rate for 1945 shows an increase of 0.2 over the previous five-year period, but a decrease over last year's figure.

The death-rate shows no substantial change.

The Infantile Mortality figure for 1945 stands at 41 per 1,000 live births.

No epidemics occurred during the year, and the incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough was substantially lower than in 1944.

Commending this report to your notice,

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

MARY EVANS,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Staff of the Health Department

MEDICAL.

Alan S. Simpson, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare Officer, Superintendent of Infectious Diseases Hospital. (Now serving with H.M. Forces.)

Mary Evans, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Acting Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, and Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

Stella M. Jones (Mrs.), B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

C. Sykes Handforth, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., M.Inst.P.C., Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

Herbert Hunter, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

J. Kay, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc. (Resigned 17/10/45).

C. F. Spencer, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Nurse Chamberlain, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Senior Nurse).

„ **Weir, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Cleary, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Schofield, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Wrigley, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Edwards, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Malone, S.R.N., S.C.M.**

CLERKS.

C. Sharples, A. Hartley, E. McCabe, P. Crook (resigned 10/12/45), **B. Wood.**

Per 1,000 of estimated Population

Maternal Mortality Rate

Population—		Per 1,000 of estimated Population		Maternal Mortality Rate				
For Birth-rate	44,270	Live Birth-rate	Crude Birth-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 total (Live one year per and Still) Births	Rate of Deaths under 1,000 Live Births
For Death-rate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mean of 5 years, 1940-44	16.0	.....	15.0	.....	1.93	.....	2.38
Year 1944	18.7	.....	13.6	.....	1.94	.....	2.34
1945	16.2	.....	15.1	.....	2.23	.....	1.35
Increase or decrease in 1945 on 5 years' average, 1940-44	+0.2	.....	+0.1	.....	+0.30	.....	-1.03
Previous year	-2.5	.....	+1.5	.....	+0.29	.....	-0.99
1945 adjusted Death-rate (comparability factor) = per 1,000.								
Live Births		Total	Male.	Female.				
Legitimate	...	654	...	321				
Illegitimate	...	66	...	25				
Total	...	720	...	346				
Still Births		16	...	7				
Deaths	...	670	...	345				
Deaths from puerperal causes—		Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1945						
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	Nil.				
Other maternal causes	1				
Total	1				
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age—		Deaths.						
All infants per 1,000 live births	41				
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	39				
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	60				

Rate of Deaths under 1,000 Live Births

Per 1,000 total (Live one year per and Still) Births

Per 1,000 Live Births

Per 1,000 total (live and still) births

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1945

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1945

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)

Measles (all ages)

Whooping Cough (all ages)

Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)

Rate of Deaths under 1,000 Live Births

Per 1,000 total (Live one year per and Still) Births

Per 1,000 Live Births

Per 1,000 total (live and still) births

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1945

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births

Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1945

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)

Measles (all ages)

Whooping Cough (all ages)

Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)

Causes of Death during the Year 1945.

	M.	F.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	0	1
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	4	1	5
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	17	12	29
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	4	6	10
Syphilitic Disease	2	0	2
Influenza	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	0	0	0
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	0	0	0
M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (Males only)	12	0	12
F. Cancer of Uterus	0	8	8
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	11	6	17
Cancer of Breast	0	11	11
Cancer of all other sites (with 3 Sub. groups)	25	26	51
Diabetes	1	3	4
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	30	46	76
Heart Disease (with 4 Sub. groups)	79	105	184
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	6	8	14
Bronchitis	41	28	69
Pneumonia	13	16	29
Other Respiratory Diseases	8	3	11
Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum ...	7	2	9
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	4	2	6
Appendicitis... ..	0	4	4
Other Digestive Diseases (with 4 Sub. groups)	6	8	14
Nephritis	5	11	16
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis (with 2 Sub. groups)	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes (with 2 Sub. groups)	0	1	1
Premature Birth	4	5	9
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease (with 2 Sub. groups)	5	4	9
Suicide	3	2	5
Road Traffic Accidents	5	0	5
Other Violent Causes	10	3	13
All Other Causes (with 14 Sub. groups) ...	22	24	46
	325	345	670

1945

Notification of Births

(Public Health Act, 1936, Section 203).

The Act requires that all births occurring in the area of Ashton-under-Lyne (after the 28th week of pregnancy, whether alive or still) shall be sent to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of the birth. All births occurring within the area are, therefore, notified to me whether the parent is a resident or a non-resident of Ashton-under-Lyne.

				Total Notified.	Ashton Residents
Number of Live Births...	Notified	Male ... 922 Female ... 891		1813	711
Number of Still Births ...	Notified	Male ... 29 Female ... 26		55	21
By Institutions:—					
		Lake Hospital	1345		
		District Infirmary	259		
		Nursing Homes... ..	58		
		Midwives	206		
		Doctors	—		
			1868		

Notifications received by Department included above, but transferred elsewhere 1136

Total Notified Births allocated to Ashton-under-Lyne	...	...	732
Percentage of Total Notified Births (Live and Still) received from	...	...	...
			(a) Institutions & Nursing Homes 88.97%
			(b) Municipal Midwives ... 11.03%
			(c) Doctors 0

MIDWIVES PRACTISING IN THE AREA.

There were five midwives practising in the area during 1945, and all five were Municipal Midwives appointed by the Lancashire County Council.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Births i.e., Live and Still).	Puerperal Sepsis Nil. Other Puerperal Causes ... 1.35
	<hr/> 1.35 <hr/>

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

This Clinic is held every Friday afternoon, one week at Enville House Centre and the following week at Richmond Street Centre.

Fifty sessions were held during 1945, and 125 expectant mothers made 653 attendances.

An increasing number of patients now enter Hospitals and Maternity Homes for their confinements. Many of these do not attend the Borough Ante-Natal Clinic, but prefer to make private arrangements with the family doctor and hospital.

POST-NATAL CLINICS.

This Clinic is held on the first Thursday afternoon in the month at Enville House Centre. There were 7 sessions in the year, and the number of patients who attended was 40.

SUPPLY OF TRANSFUSION FLUIDS FOR MATERNITY CASES.

Arrangements were made with the Blood Transfusion Officer for the Supply of Transfusion Services in certain obstetric emergencies. Any doctor practising in the area requiring transfusion fluids for a maternity case has been advised to communicate with Dr. Thomas, the Obstetric Consultant appointed for the Borough. Dr. Thomas is also the Medical Superintendent of the Lake Hospital and has immediate access day and night to their blood bank.

War-Time Nurseries

Two Nursery Classes were established during 1943 and one during 1944, namely:—

Trafalgar School Nursery Class opened in June, with accommodation for 30 children aged 2—5 years, and

Elgin Street School Nursery Class, opened in August to accommodate 30 children; and

Parochial School Nursery Class, opened in May, 1944, to accommodate 30 children.

These were opened at the request of the Board of Education and Ministry of Health to enable mothers of young children to undertake work of National Importance.

These three Classes and the two Day Nurseries—West End and Hurst—provide accommodation for 167 children.

In addition, under the Daily Guardian Scheme, 290 children under 5 years were cared for by 287 women who registered as Daily Guardians. They receive a small financial remuneration from the Labour Exchange. The actual arrangements are made between the Daily Guardians and the mother of the child. The Register of Children is kept at the W.V.S. Office. Before a woman is accepted as a Daily Guardian a report on her home is given by a Health Visitor.

Arrangements have now been made for the care of 457 children under 5 whose mothers are working:—

West End Day Nursery	...	...	...	...	45
Hurst Day Nursery	...	...	...	...	32
Trafalgar School Nursery Class	...	...	...	...	30
Elgin Street Nursery Class	...	...	...	...	30
Parochial School Nursery Class	...	...	...	...	30
Daily guarded	...	...	...	...	290
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	457
					<hr/>

The attendance at all the Nurseries has, on the whole, been regular. The incidence of infectious disease has been low and the general health of the children has been remarkably good.

INFANT MORTALITY

The causes of the 30 deaths were as follows:—

Pneumonia (all forms)	1
Premature Birth	13
Congenital Malformation	5
Suffocation (overlying)	1
Other Causes	10
	<hr/>
	30
	<hr/>

Child Welfare Centres

The work at the Infant Welfare Centres was well maintained during 1945, and the following figures show the number of sessions held, the number of consultations and the weighings carried out at the Centres:—

Consultations held	128
Attendances at Consultations	1840
Number of Weighings of Children	8366

Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year:

(1) By Children under 1 year of age	7322
(2) By Children between the ages of 1 and 5	1519

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were:—

(1) Under 1 year of age	506
Percentage of notified live births represented	
by this figure	71½
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	85

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were:—

(1) Under 1 year of age	342
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	548

The fact that 71% of the total notified births are brought to the Welfare Centres is an indication that the work is of value and appreciated by the parents.

Provision of Dried Milk

During 1945, 11,285 packets of dried milk were sold at the Centres.

165 were sold at half-price and 946 were provided free, in accordance with the income scale adopted.

The net cost to the Council amounted to £43 8s. 7d.

Orthopædic Treatment

Number of individual pre-school children attending Clinic 110.

A classification of the conditions for which the above 110 children were treated is set out below:—

1. Rickets	5
2. Genu-Valgum (Knock-knee)	38
3. Genu-Varum (Bow-leg)	7
4. Torticollis (Wry-neck)	7
5. Infantile Paralysis	1
6. Spina Bifida	4
7. Flat feet	30
8. Postural deformities	4
9. Curly toes	10
10. Unclassified	4
	<hr/>
	110
	<hr/>

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Artificial Sunlight Clinic

One hundred and twenty-one children made 1,630 attendances.

Adoption

The Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, came into force on 1st June, 1943. A Register is now kept of the children adopted and they are regularly visited by the Health Visitors.

HOME HELPS.

Attempts were again made during the year to develop the Home Helps Scheme. There was difficulty in getting suitable women as Home Helps.

Arrangements have been made with the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service whereby, if there is a demand for a Home Help, the Exchange is to be notified by the Medical Officer of Health and an effort made to find a suitable person.

ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE THE GENERAL STANDARD OF CLEANLINESS & HABITS TO COMBAT INFESTATION BY HEAD-LICE.

In accordance with suggestions from the Ministry of Health, steps were taken to improve the general standard of cleanliness in children under 5 years.

The Nurses have made early morning and late evening visits to the homes. Lethane Hair Oil has been advised in the treatment of head vermin. Where necessary, action was taken under the Scabies Order, 1941.

The Health Visitors, who are also the School Nurses, now undertake the treatment of Scabies Cases.

Child Life Protection

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

SECTIONS 206—220.

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| (a) | Number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year | 1 |
| (b) | Number of children on the register at the end of the year | 1 |
| (c) | Number of Child Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were Health Visitors | 6 |
-

Nursing Homes

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

SECTIONS 187—195.

The Lancashire County Council have delegated their powers under the above Act to the Ashton-under-Lyne Borough Council who are the supervising authority for this purpose.

There is one Nursing Home registered in the Borough at:—
24, Villiers Street.

The Medical Officer of Health made one inspection during the year.

Housing Statistics

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

- | | | |
|-----|--|------|
| (a) | Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) | Nil. |
| | (i) By the Local Authority | Nil. |
| | (ii) By other Local Authorities | Nil. |
| | (iii) By other bodies or persons | Nil. |

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—

(i) By the Local Authority (included under
(a) (i) above) ... Nil.

(ii) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii)
above) ... Nil.

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected
for housing defects (under Public Health or
Housing Acts) ... 387

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 954

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under
sub-head (1) above) which were inspected
and recorded under the Housing Consolidated
Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 124

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 234

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state
so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit
for human habitation ... —

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those
referred to under the preceding sub-head) found
not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human
habitation ... 411

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of
formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in
consequence of informal action by the Local Authority
or their Officers... 467

3.—Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the
Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of
which notices were served requiring repairs —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By Owners —

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners —

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 6

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) By Owners 6

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners —

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders —

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

4.—Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 186

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 205

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 1286

- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year... .. —
 - (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year —
 - (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases —
-

Eradication of Tuberculosis

Eleven samples of Milk have been taken and examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. The reports showed all these samples to be "negative."

Water Supply

The Water Supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. There has been filtration of all supplies. Chlorination at the Brushes and Yeoman Hey Filterhouses and Ozonisation at Knott Hill.

During the year 4 chemical and 178 bacteriological samples were taken, and the results returned were considered very satisfactory.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK EXAMINATION. .

Biological: (a) Bacteriological 11 examinations.
 (b) Methylene Blue 22 ,,
 (c) Phosphatase Test 22 ,,

Out of the above 55 examinations, 36 were satisfactory and 19 unsatisfactory.

The Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year were as follows:—

DISEASE	Total Cases at all Ages	Total Deaths	HOSPITAL	
			Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	64	5	64	—
Erysipelas	6	—	2	—
Scarlet Fever	41	—	29	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	—	7	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	3	—	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	35	29	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	3	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	56	30	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	18	8	—	—
Measles	233	—	3	—
Whooping Cough	34	—	1	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—
Poliomylitis	1	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—
Totals	503	72	109	—

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

From 1st June, 1943, 11 beds, instead of 12, have been maintained at the Borough Hospital, Hyde.

The authorities of Oldham and Monsall have agreed to admit cases if there are beds available at the time.

The Ashton and District Smallpox Hospital at Hartshead is always held in readiness and any case of Smallpox could be admitted within an hour of notification.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were 64 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year. There were 5 deaths, one a child under 5 years and four children 5 to 15 years. The fatal cases had not been immunised.

Age distribution of the cases notified:—

Under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	7
5 to 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	31
Over 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	26
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	64

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

			School.	Pre-School.	Total.
Children Immunised from 1934–1936...	124	...	—	...	124
„ „ in 1937 ...	219	...	46	...	265
„ „ „ 1938 ...	174	...	54	...	228
„ „ „ 1939 ...	33	...	23	...	56
„ „ „ 1940 ...	147	...	178	...	325
„ „ „ 1941 ...	1933	...	422	...	2355
„ „ „ 1942 ...	185	...	525	...	710
„ „ „ 1943 ...	492	...	680	...	1172
„ „ „ 1944 ...	615	...	626	...	1241
„ „ „ 1945 ...	103	...	411	...	514
<hr/>					
Total Immunised at 31/12/45 ...	4025	...	2965	...	6990

Total Immunised under 5 years and
between 5 and 15 at 31/12/45 ... 4392 ... 1011 ... 5403

Percentage Immunised at 31/12/45 ... 71.53%...27.03%...54.69%

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Persons inoculated each year from 1934—1945

Total inoculated aged
under five years on
31st December, 1945,
1011

Total inoculated aged
5—14 years on 31st
December, 1945,
4392

Total inoculated aged
15 years and over on
31st December, 1945,
1587

Grand total 1934—1945,
6990

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION. Annual Return for Ministry of Health.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1945

Age at 31 12/45 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1945	1 1944	2 1943	3 1942	4 1941	5 to 9 1936—1940	10 to 14 1931—1935	Total under 15
Number Immunised	4	218	113	284	392	2344	2048	5403
Estimated mid-year population, 1945	3740						6140	9880

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 41 cases (63 in 1944) notified. The disease was mild and there were no deaths.

PNEUMONIA.

There were 35 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia notified (29 in 1944) and 3 cases (2 in 1944) of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

Influenza is not notifiable unless complicated with Pneumonia.

ASHTON AND DISTRICT SICK NURSING ASSOCIATION.

262 visits were made to 38 cases of Pneumonia by the Nurses from the Ashton and District Sick Nursing Association.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFIED CASES NURSED DURING 1945

(JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st).

I am indebted to the Matron of the Ashton-under-Lyne District Nursing Association for the following figures of work which they have carried out during the year 1945.

	Cases.	Visits.
Lobar Pneumonia	52	246
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	10	56
Measles	26	186
Infantile Paralysis	2	16
Bronchial Pneumonia ...	86 = 176	100 = 604

Children under five—

Chicken Pox	6	
Whooping Cough	6	
Rubella (German Measles)	6	
Infantile Diarrhoea... ..	2 = 20 (inc. no.)	240
Circumcision (Minor Ops.)	49	
Skin Diseases in Children	56 = 105 (inc. no.)	1105
	<hr/> 310	<hr/> 2002

Report of the Tuberculosis Officer for the Year 1945

During the year 1945, 73 notifications of patients suffering from tuberculosis were received. Of these 57 were notified as suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, 15 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, and 1 combined case.

Of the 57 pulmonary cases, 29 were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, 10 had negative sputum, 9 had no sputum, and in 9 cases the sputum was not examined.

The combined case had no sputum.

The 15 non-pulmonary cases are classified as follows:—

Glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Hip	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Elbow	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Abdomen	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dactylitis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Spine	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Knee	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Epididymus	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meninges	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Genito-urinary	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ribs	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Multiple	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ankle	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Skin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Foot	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Skin and Glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Femur	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
							15
							—

Seventeen of the cases notified in 1945 died during the year (15 pulmonary, 2 non-pulmonary).

Fifty-five of the cases applied for treatment. In the remaining 18 cases no application was made for the following reasons:

Diagnosis not confirmed after examination	...	...	5
In Union Hospital	...	...	—
Removed from District	...	...	3
Died immediately after notification	...	...	8
Refused to apply	...	...	1
No action necessary	...	...	1

Of the patients who applied for treatment, 11 were sent to Sanatoria, 22 to Pulmonary Hospital, 0 to General Hospital, 0 to Orthopædic Hospital, 5 to non-pulmonary Sanatoria, and 0 to Skin Hospital. The remaining 17 cases were under dispensary supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, a number of patients are sent to the Dispensary for diagnosis. During the year 295 new cases were sent for diagnosis by the Doctors, School Medical Officers, etc.

The number of re-attendances of old patients at the Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment was 743.

Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite tuberculosis, and 171 of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting, special attention is paid to the open cases, *i.e.*, cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. On the 1st January, 1945, there were 44 such cases known to be living in the district. On the 31st December, 1945, there were 52 positive cases living.

Seventeen of the positive cases died during the year.

No positive cases removed from the district during the year.

The condition as to isolation of the positive cases on the register during 1945 was as follows:—

Separate room	31
Separate bed	8
Unable to have separate bed ...	30

Twenty-four of the positive cases were in institution for treatment and isolation at some time during the year.

The number of positive cases living at 31st December, 1945, who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1945 was 46. The other 6 had either negative or no sputum.

Of the 46 cases who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1945, 16 had separate room, 7 had separate bed, 9 were unable to have separate bed, and 14 were in institution at the end of the year.

No housing defects were reported during the year.

Three hundred and eighty-seven specimens of sputum were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these, 70 were positive and 317 were negative.

During the year 1945, 49 cases were discharged from institution as follows:—

Sanatoria	20
Pulmonary Hospital	23
General Hospital	1
Orthopædic Hospital	—
Non-pulmonary Sanatoria	5
Skin Hospital	—

The results on discharge were as follows:—

Quiescent or arrested	12
Improved	20
I.s.q.	8
Worse	1
Died	8
Diagnosis not confirmed	—

During the year there were two deaths from tuberculosis where the cases had not been notified previously.

GEORGE FLETCHER, M.D.,

15/7/46.

Consultant Tuberculosis Officer.

Venereal Disease

Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations, 1916.

The Lancashire County Council, who administer these regulations, have a treatment centre at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary.

The following shows the work carried out at the Venereal Diseases Clinic at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary during the year 1945:—

Patients under treatment at 1st January, 1945 ...	126
New cases admitted during 1945	186
Total attendances	3234
Patients receiving treatment at the end of 1945...	159
Pathological examinations for V.D. patients ...	1390

Of the 186 new cases admitted during the year, 64 were Ashton residents. There is an increase in the incidence of Venereal Disease in the area due to war conditions, but the question is being very closely watched.

Penicillin is available for specified cases, and the results are being watched with interest. Service cases are now reporting for continuation tests in fair number.

Scabies

The Scabies Clinic is now held at the Disinfection Station, Town's Yard.

This building was originally constructed for the disinfection of Smallpox contacts, and is suitable for treating cases of Scabies. There is a Waiting Room, Bath Room, Treatment and Dressing Room and a Discharge Room. Clothes for stoving are passed through a revolving cupboard in the bathroom to the disinfectant next door.

Treatments by appointment are given on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday—women and children in the mornings and men in the afternoons. A following-up Clinic is held at the School Clinic every Wednesday morning, when cases are seen by the Medical Officer.

The Health Visitors—School Nurses treat the women and children and a male attendant treats the men.

The treatment given is baths, followed by an application of Benzyl-Benzoate Emulsion. Each patient is told to bring a change of clean clothes. Typewritten instructions are given regarding clothing and other necessary precautions. The local doctors have been notified of these arrangements.

Fresh sources of infection come into the town from time to time. By careful following up of contacts to known cases, and by treating whole families the infection has been kept down. In difficult cases, and particularly when re-infection occurs, action has been taken under the Scabies Order, 1941—to ensure the medical examination and treatment of contacts.

In dealing with this infection the Nurses have paid many day and evening visits to the homes.

Individual No. of Patients treated
for Scabies in 1945:—

					Attendances.	
Pre-School Children	...	55	...	101		
School Children	... ..	228	...	431		
Adults	... ..	147	...	259		
					<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	... ..	430	...	791		
					<hr/>	<hr/>

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1945

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1945

Number of inspections (including housing)	9750
Number of nuisances abated	1962
Number of visits to common lodging-houses, furnished rooms and dwelling-vans	47
Number of visits to slaughter-houses	163
Number of visits to Cowsheds and Dairies	62
Number of visits to Bakehouses	81
Number of visits to food stores and food preparing premises	347
Number of visits to Fish Friers	26
Number of visits to Factories and Workshops	193
Number of visits to Offensive Trade premises	6
Number of visits re rat infestations	2935
Number of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act	64

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical Power... ..	182	16	—
Factories without Mechanical Power ...	11	1	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)... ..	—	—	—
Total	193	17	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ...	3	3	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)...	9	9	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences { Insufficient ...	2	2	—	—
{ Unsuitable or Defective ...	13	13	—	—
(S. 7) { Not Separate for Sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	9	9	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)				
Total	36	36	—	—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

During the year sixty-four samples of Milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst.

PARTICULARS OF ADULTERATION

No.	Article.	Adulteration or Offence.	Remarks.
458.	Milk.	Deficient in Fat 31.3%	Fined £2/-/- & £1/1/- costs on the 3rd Sept., 1945.
480.	Milk.	Deficient in Fat 58.6%	Fined £1/-/- & £1/1/- costs on the 1st Oct., 1945.

Meat Inspection

TABLE No. 2

Carcases with all organs condemned as totally unfit for human consumption.

Animals.			Tuberculosis.		Accidents.		Inflammatory Diseases.	Other Conditions.
Cows	...	...	47	...	—	...	—	2
Bulls	...	...	1	...	—	...	—	—
Bullocks	...	...	—	...	—	...	—	—
Heifers	...	...	6	...	—	...	—	—
Calves	...	...	1	...	—	...	—	2
Sheep	...	...	—	...	1	...	—	1
Pigs	...	...	2	...	—	...	—	1

Carcases partially condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Animals.	Tuberculosis.				Inflammatory Diseases.				Other Conditions.
	
Cows	67	...	—	...	—	...	2
Bulls	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
Bullocks	4	...	—	...	—	...	—
Heifers	6	...	—	...	—	...	—
Calves	—	...	—	...	—	...	1
Sheep	—	...	—	...	1	...	—
Pigs	—	...	—	...	—	...	—

TABLE No. 3

Various Organs Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.

				Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Livers	Stomachs	Hearts	Spleens	Mesenteries	Intestines	Udders	Kidneys	Diaphragms	Tails
Tuberculosis:																
Bovines	...	...		283	283	773	276	55	54	152	132	132	7	44	229	—
Pigs	...	...	...	34	34	23	17	—	21	—	2	2	—	—	16	—
Inflammatory Diseases:																
Bovines	...	...		4	4	122	89	3	8	3	4	4	28	23	5	—
Pigs	...	...	...	—	—	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep	...	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Parasitic Diseases:																
Bovines	...	...		3	3	52	159	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Pigs	...	...	...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep	...	...	...	—	—	1	375	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Diseases:																
Bovines	...	...		—	—	2	115	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pigs	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following table gives some idea of the work involved in this particular branch of my department:

No. of visits to slaughter-houses during 1945 ...	163
No. of visits to food premises and markets ...	347
No. of carcasses inspected:—	
Cattle and Calves	2975
Sheep and Lambs	6336
Pigs	353
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Total	9664

The total weight of meat and offals destroyed during the year as diseased, unsound and unfit for the food of man was 78,785 lbs. or 35 tons 3 cwts. 1 qr. 21 lbs.

